

# Nazis Claim 34 British Planes, 12 Ships in Big Air Battle; 9 Germans Lost, Says London

Many Craft Involved In Engagement Over Southeast England

By the Associated Press.

LONDON, Aug. 8.—At least nine German planes—six dive bombers and three fighters—were shot down in a huge air battle, which raged along England's southeastern coast this morning, an official announcement said.

Two British fighter pilots were missing after the battle, which followed a German bombing attack on shipping in the narrow waters of the English Channel.

(The German high command announced in a special bulletin issued in Berlin that 34 British planes had been shot down and 12 ships totaling 55,000 tons had been sunk in today's engagement.)

In addition, the high command said, a tanker of 8,000 tons and two steamers totaling 9,000 tons were sunk by speedboats last night.)

It was estimated that some 50 bombers and a large escort of fighting planes were engaged in the battle, which spread inland over the coastal area.

In one town, where the Germans and low-flying British Spitfires dived at full throttle with machine guns blazing, a local court continued to hear cases while the windows of the courtroom rattled to the bursts of gunfire.

The air battle raged far over the Channel, with planes darting in and out of the clouds, sometimes fighting in formation, sometimes in individual dog fights.

Plane Plunges Into Channel.

One of the German planes shot down was a Messerschmitt 109, forming a part of the fighter escort of the heavy bombers. It plunged into the Channel in flames.

The battle, which grew out of the second raid along the southeast coast during the morning, lasted exactly an hour. An hour and a half after it was over an Air Ministry communiqué put the German plane losses at nine.

During the battle planes often swooped within 1,000 feet of rooftops and Channel, but no bombs were dropped. Large clouds of smoke were seen near two ports where it was believed two raiders crashed.

The air was split with almost continuous cannon fire from the Messerschmitts, the sharp crackle of answering machine-guns, and the British Spitfires and an unusually heavy barrage of anti-aircraft fire.

Observers said Nazi fighters could be seen speeding out to sea as Spitfires dived on their tails from the clouds above.

Messerschmitts, tackled by Spitfires, dived down toward the sea, righting itself at a height of only a few hundred feet. Then it streaked off toward France—still pursued.

Official sources said later there were only 12 British fighters, one squadron, in the fight against at least 50 German bombers and a large escort of fighting planes.

The Nazi bombers were Junkers 87s and 88s, while the fighters were mostly Messerschmitt 109s, although some of Germany's new Heinkel 113 fighters were in action.

Most of the British planes were Hurricanes.

Meanwhile in the House of Commons it was reported that 250 civilians were killed and 321 injured seriously during air raids on Britain during the month of July, in a written answer to a question.

War Carried to Norway.

An Admiralty announcement said British planes had carried the war to the German-occupied coast of Norway with units of the fleet air arm successfully attacking a gasoline storage depot 5 miles south of Bergen.

Reports from the attacking Skuas (British bombers) indicated that the entire gasoline depot had been destroyed.

Describing the channel air battle, the Air Ministry said a number of engagements took place, "the destruction" of several other German planes had been reported without full confirmation.

Earlier a German bomber attack on a small shipping convoy off England's southeastern coast had been reported, with indications that the Nazi raids were increasing in intensity with particular attention to that area.

Watchers on the shore saw a number of bombs drop in the sea and heard heavy gunfire before British pursuit planes drove off the bombers.

Attacks Limited in Scope.

Attacks, however, appeared to be limited in scope, and most of the invaders flew at high altitudes, apparently on reconnaissance. British fighters went up to intercept them, then began a continuous patrol.

Bombs were dropped over other sections, apparently by lone planes. No particular damage was reported. The day's activity followed at night of raids on English, Welsh and Scottish points. Leaflets containing excerpts from Adolf Hitler's "Peace or Destruction" ultimatum also were dropped again.

In the night raids, the government announced, casualties were "very few, though some women were injured on a country road were seriously injured. Damage was slight except in one town in the Northeast England where "a sanatorium and shop property suffered considerably.

## Italy's Push in Somaliland Halts After 2 Successes

Activity Noted at Libyan-Egyptian Border, Scene of Expected Offensive

By the Associated Press.

CAIRO, Egypt, Aug. 8.—The Italian columns driving into British Somaliland from Ethiopia halted after their capture of Oadweina and Hargeisa "as anticipated," a British communiqué reported tonight.

Air reconnaissance over those towns in the western part of the protectorate "showed little movement," the communiqué said.

It reported continued movement of Italian forces, particularly "motorized transport," in the Libyan-Egyptian border region, "the western desert" where the British expect a large-scale Italian offensive shortly.

Offensive Expected Soon.

Italian armies in Libya, fearing intensification of the British naval blockade and faced with dwindling water and war supplies, are expected to launch a grand offensive by mid-August in an attempt to break Britain's stranglehold on the North African coast.

The Italian push into British Somaliland, which resulted yesterday in the fall of the port of Zeila, was looked on here as more or less a

move to divert British power to defense of that territory, preliminary to the big push.

(Fascists in Rome said occupation of Zeila was the first step in their current offensive to incorporate British and French Somaliland into Italian East Africa. Its success would give Italy command of 2,500 miles of coastline from the Gulf of Aden to the Indian Ocean.)

British warships, patrolling almost the entire length of the Libyan coast, form a line of steel blocking attempts of Italian water tankers and supply ships to get through from Italy to Libya.

Zeila Capture Called Big Strategic Advantage

ROME, Aug. 8 (AP).—Italian occupation of Zeila, westernmost port in British Somaliland, is the first step in a move by the Italians to join British and French Somaliland with Italian Somaliland in the African offensive now under way, a high

(See ROME, Page A-3.)

## British Promise India 'Equal Partnership' Following War

Offer to Let Natives Devise Framework of New Constitution

By the Associated Press.

LONDON, Aug. 8.—Britain, seeking fuller use of India's vast wealth and man power for the fight to maintain her empire intact, today promised India "free and equal partnership" in the British Commonwealth after the war.

The pledge, interpreted as going beyond Britain's previous proposal for post-war dominion status for India, came as Italian columns drove toward new outposts on the Indian Ocean along Britain's lifeline of empire.

A government statement said the present, "when the commonwealth is engaged in a struggle for existence," is not the time for "fundamental constitutional" changes. But it promised to let the Indians themselves "devise the framework of a new constitution" after the war.

Broader Than Dominion Status.

The pledge, announced by L. S. Amery, British secretary of state for India, in the House of Commons, was authoritatively interpreted as offering an "even broader" status than that of dominion, which is enjoyed by Canada, Australia and South Africa.

Post-war dominion status for India was proposed by the government last October.

A similar statement was made simultaneously by Lord Linlithgow, viceroy, in India.

Full "sympathy" was expressed for Indian insistence that the new constitution should be framed by Indians and ready "assent" was announced to organization, after the war, of a body representing the principal elements in Indian national life to devise a new constitution.

An invitation to Indian leaders to join the Government's Executive Council and establishment of a war advisory council which would contain representatives of the Indian states also was announced.

Moves to Tap Man Power.

Great Britain, with her lifeline of empire menaced by the Italian advance in Africa toward the Red Sea, and her home citadel threatened with a blitzkrieg by Germany thus moved to tap the man power and wealth of her richest possession, teeming India.

India already is contributing substantially to the British war effort.

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## Japan Held Waiting To Move on Indies

Nazi Drive on England Believed Timed With Hitler's Campaign

By the Associated Press.

SHANGHAI, Aug. 8.—Trustworthy foreign sources said today the Japanese Army and Navy are speeding preparations for further moves southward, in the direction of French Indo-China and the Netherlands Indies.

A lightning Japanese thrust, these informants predicted, would be timed to coincide with any attempt by Adolf Hitler to start his long-threatened invasion of England.

Cautious Move Alternative.

In the event Hitler failed to move, it was believed Japan would proceed cautiously but inevitably toward further extension of her influence.

At the moment, the immediate point of pressure is French Indo-China.

(Reports from Hanoi, French Indo-China today said the return of Gen. Issaku Nishihara, head of a Japanese Economic Mission, from Tokyo conferences was taken to indicate Japan would be content at present to pursue her aims through "persuasion.")

What the Japanese want most now is the right to transport troops and supplies over the French Indo-China railway into Yunnan Province for a drive against Chinese-held Kunming, key city of Southwest China.

Ready to Attack.

In the event of resistance, Japan was said to be ready to attack. This almost certainly would extend the Chinese-Japanese war to French Indo-China, since the Chungking government of Chiang Kai-shek has announced it would send troops there to battle any Japanese invasion.

Japanese Warships Moving.

Occasional reports of possible imminent Japanese action in a southerly direction in recent weeks have been traced to movements of Japanese warships and transports between Formosa and Hainan.

Japanese naval forces in this area are understood to consist of about 30 ships, mostly cruisers and destroyers.

(See SHANGHAI, Page A-3.)

## Farley to Quit Cabinet Post August 31

Roosevelt Accepts Resignation With 'Real Regret'

By the Associated Press.

HYDE PARK, Aug. 8.—President Roosevelt today accepted with "real regret" the resignation of James A. Farley as Postmaster General, effective as of August 31—about two weeks after Mr. Farley steps out of his post as chairman of the Democratic National Committee.

Mr. Farley resigned his political post after the Chicago convention in July, giving as his reason a desire to return to private life. There have been persistent and apparently well-founded reports that he would head a syndicate buying the New York Yankees baseball club.

Mr. Roosevelt dictated a letter to Mr. Farley in which he said he accepted the resignation with "real regret," wished Mr. Farley success in private business and praised his administration of the Post Office Department.

Future Plans Arranged.

"All of us in the administration," the President wrote, "will miss you deeply; we count on seeing you often after all of our years of close personal association. Our friendship will always continue."

Mr. Farley, a political ally of the Chief Executive of many years' standing, said in his letter of resignation as Postmaster General, dated yesterday, that he, too, felt sincere regret at taking the step, listed accomplishments of the postal service, and added:

"I know that it will please you to learn that I have made definite arrangements for my future in private business where I know I shall be very happy."

Text of Farley Letter.

The text of Mr. Farley's letter, dated August 7, follows:

My Dear Mr. President:

In accordance with my several conversations with you wherein I indicated the necessity for my returning to private life, I tender you, with sincere regret, my resignation as Postmaster General of the United States.

I want you to know how much I appreciate the honor you conferred upon me and the trust that you placed in me when you appointed me to this important position in your cabinet, when you took office on March 4, 1933.

Whatever success I may have had in the conduct of the affairs of the postal service is due in a large measure to the splendid assistance and co-operation which I have received not only from my associates in the department here in Washington, but also from postmasters and postal employees in every branch of the service throughout the country.

Services Extended.

During my two terms as Postmaster General we have succeeded in placing the postal service on a self-sustaining basis with respect to that part of the service that is rendered to the public for hire; we have reduced the hours of labor from 44 to 40 hours a week; we have extended the airmail service by thousands of miles, including the trans-Pacific services; we have supervised the erection of hundreds of new postoffice buildings in every State and congressional district in the Nation; we have reduced postal expenditures by several millions of dollars while at the same time doing a record business in both volume and receipts, climaxed by a new all-time high of \$766,000,000 in the matter of postal revenues, for the fiscal year ended June 30, 1940.

We have provided new and increased services, and we have likewise performed several outstanding services for other Government agencies, such as the handling and payment of the soldiers' bonus, the registration of workers under the social security program, the taking of a census of the unemployed and the sale of millions of dollars of United States savings bonds for the Treasury Department.

Workers' Morale High.

These are some of the outstanding accomplishments of the postal service during my period of service as Postmaster General, but what has pleased me more than anything else is the manner in which the department's relations with its employees in every branch of the service have been carried on.

Through our co-operation with the employees' organizations we have

(See FARLEY, Page A-12.)



## Treasury May Apply Frozen French Funds On War Debt Payment

Morgenthau Reveals Release Awaits on Fate Of U. S. Investments

By the Associated Press.

Secretary of the Treasury Morgenthau disclosed today that the United States was considering the possibility of taking World War debt payments out of frozen French funds in this country.

When the subject of war debts was raised at his press conference, the Treasury chief said that before French funds are released he wants to see "what happens to American investments and debts over there."

Secretary Morgenthau had referred many times to the possibility of offsetting American business and other losses in the invaded European countries against the funds of those countries being held here, but formerly he had given no reply to inquiries about World War indebtedness.

France Owes U. S. \$4 Billion.

France alone owes this country about \$4,000,000,000 from the last war.

Asked whether the freezing regulations, imposed on the funds belonging to invaded nations and their peoples, also applied to Germany, Morgenthau replied:

"No, any amount of money can be sent to Germany, and there is nothing we can do about it. It's silly, but we are at peace with Germany and cannot do anything about its funds."

Distinction Drawn.

A reporter remarked that this country also was at peace with France but had frozen her funds. Mr. Morgenthau explained that what he meant was that freezing orders applied only to invaded countries, rather than ones at war, because when a country was invaded a question arose whether its citizens tried to get money from this country on their own initiative or under "duress" of the invaders.

He gave no estimate of the frozen funds, which have been rumored to total several billion dollars. All the American funds of France, Belgium, Holland, Luxembourg, Denmark and Norway have been tied up.

New Zealand Orders Single Men Enrolled

By the Associated Press.

WELLINGTON, New Zealand, Aug. 8.—The government issued a proclamation today for enrollment of general reserve manpower which will be liable to compulsory national service.

Minister of National Service Semple announced the first division of the reserve will comprise single men between the ages of 19 and 45. The native Maoris are exempt.

Former Sugar Executive Dies

HACKENSACK, N. J., Aug. 8 (AP).—W. Edward Foster, 75, former president of the American Sugar Refining Co., died today at his home. He had been ill three months.

## British Pilot Gives Life to Save Town From Blazing Plane

By the Associated Press.

LONDON, Aug. 8.—Heroism of a British pilot who crashed to his death in the sea saved a southeast coast town from a disaster today.

The pilot remained at his controls to avert what appeared to be an inevitable crash into buildings of the town. As a result of his guidance, the plane fell in the water 50 yards from shore.

## R.C.A. Discussed Fees For Suit Postponement Witnesses Assert

\$50,000 to \$250,000 Mentioned, Senate Committee Is Told

By WILLIAM J. WHEATLEY.

Fees ranging from \$50,000 to \$250,000 were suggested by officials of the Radio Corp. of America as payments for any one who could exercise enough influence to get the trial of the R.C.A. General Electric-Westinghouse anti-trust suit postponed in 1932, two witnesses describing themselves as Washington real estate brokers testified today before the Senate Committee on Interstate Commerce.

They were Whelan P. Shaffer, with offices in the Union Trust Building, and E. O. Keller, for whom no address was given. Mr. Shaffer was uncertain on some circumstances in connection with what he called his efforts to reach persons who might bring about postponement of the suit, explaining that events eight years ago were somewhat hazy. However, as he was released from the stand to permit Mr. Keller to testify, Chairman Wheeler said to him:

"Your memory will be refreshed on a lot of things before we get through with you here."

Brown Consideration Sidelined.

In going into the alleged efforts to postpone the R.C.A. suit, the committee has sidetracked temporarily the original purpose of the hearing—to inquire into the fitness of Thad H. Brown for confirmation to succeed himself as a member of the Federal Communications Commission. Other capital men alleged to have been involved in the postponement transactions are to be called as witnesses.

Mr. Shaffer said he was introduced to Robert D. O'Callaghan, attorney for R.C.A. in New York, by Mr. Keller and that the attorney told him it would be worth \$50,000 to anyone who could get a continuance of the case, which was about to go to trial. He testified that later

(See R. C. A., Page A-2.)

Chairman Sabbath of the Rules Committee said he would be prepared to hear the testimony of Mr. Shaffer and Mr. Keller.

Mr. Summers today began to prepare his speech before the Rules Committee and indicated the hearing will be brief and that he probably will be accompanied by only one member advocate—a Republican, probably Representative Guver of Kansas, ranking minority member. He emphasized that the members of the committee are familiar with the question, that the Democratic party platform has declared for District suffrage, that the Republican House leadership has made it a bi-partisan matter by pledging the support of the Republican House members and that Representative C. Michener of Michigan, Republican, who is a member of both Judiciary and Rules Committees, voted for the resolution before the Judiciary Committee.

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## D. C. Representation Action in Senate Waits On House Committee

King Will Confer With Summers on Preferred Procedure

By the Associated Press.

The special five-man subcommittee of the Senate Judiciary Committee considering the original Summers resolution for national representation for the District sponsored by Senator King of Utah, chairman of the subcommittee and of the Senate District Committee, today deferred action in courtesy to Representative Summers, Democrat, of Texas.

After a brief executive session this morning Senator King said the Senate subcommittee had decided to wait action by the House Rules Committee on Mr. Summers' request for a special rule to give privileged status in the House on the amended Summers national representation resolution.

He also said he will then confer with Mr. Summers. If the latter wishes the Senate to consider the resolution in advance of House action, Senator King said, he would then invite Mr. Summers to appear before the Senate subcommittee.

The four members attending the conference this morning, he said, have expressed the desire to hear personally from Mr. Summers before they take any action on the Summers-King resolution.

The four members attending the subcommittee session were Chairman King and Senator McCarran of Nevada, Democrats; Senator Austin of Vermont and Taft of Ohio, Republicans. All but Senator Taft also are members of the Senate District Committee. Senator Hughes, Democrat, of Delaware did not attend the meeting.

Meanwhile, Mr. Summers has been notified by Chairman Sabbath of the Rules Committee that he will be granted a hearing Tuesday of his request for a special rule to give the Summers resolution a place near the head of the list for priority legislation.

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## Barkley Raps Effort to Limit Guard to U. S.

Senators to Vote On Training Bill At 4 O'Clock

By the Associated Press.

Efforts to limit use of National Guardsmen and Reservists to the United States and its possessions brought attacks from administration Senators today as they pressed for unqualified presidential authorization on the measure.

Republicans and Democrats agreed to a final vote at 4 p.m. today and supporters for the measure concentrated their efforts on beating down an amendment offered by Senator Adams, Democrat, of Colorado, which would limit use of the civilian soldiers to Continental United States and its possessions, instead of the entire Western Hemisphere and possessions of the United States as now provided.

Majority Leader Barkley declared he thought the Senate underestimated "the fiber of the National Guard if we assume they are unwilling to go wherever any other soldier is directed to go."

Senator Adams explained that the amendment sought to "conserve the power of Congress to decide whether the National Guard" is to be used outside the United States and its possessions.

"Not Willing to Await Attack.

To this, Senator Barkley declared: "The American people want every vital interest of the United States defended, wherever that interest lies. They do not mean we have to wait until an aggressor gets on our front porch."

"The American people, whenever they have been in a conflict, have never been willing to wait until the enemy landed in the United States."

Senator Connally, Democrat, of Texas pointed out that the President had sent troops to Siberia in 1918, troops to Mexico in 1916 and Marines had been sent to many Central American sections without a vote from Congress.

"The President is commander in chief of the Army and Navy all of the time, not just part of the time," Donahoe Joins Draft Fees.

New opposition to the conscription bill appeared with a statement by Senator Donahoe, Democrat, of Ohio.

He declared "this country is in no danger from attack without it if it attends to its own business." Voluntary enlistment, he said, "for home defense only, for one year at \$36 per month, should be authorized and carried on until January 1, 1941," and at that date Congress should be able to determine the need for conscription.

Senator McNary, minority leader, tentatively agreed to the time limit on further action after the Senate yesterday rejected, 47 to 36, an amendment offered by Senator Danaher, Republican, of Connecticut which would have permitted Guardsmen and Reservists to resign within 20 days of enactment of the measure.

Administration Senators opposed the amendment, asserting it would, in effect, provide a discharge for all the men. They argued that the Guardsmen had enlisted to serve the Nation in any emergency and should not be permitted to quit at a time when they are needed.

Senator Danaher declared, however, the belief that they would be ordered to duty outside their State only if Congress should declare war.

Married Men Allowed to Quit.

Married guardsmen in the ranks between sergeant and private, who could not support a family with Army pay, are being permitted to resign. Officers already have the privilege of resigning.

Although anti-conscription leaders supported the amendment, neither side acknowledged the vote as a clear-cut indication of the trend in the main issue—conscription.

The Guard bill would make approximately 396,700 men subject to immediate call to duty.

These would include approximately 227,000 in the National Guard, 116,000 in the Officers Reserve Corps, 35,000 enlisted men in the Regular Army Reserve, 3,000 specialists in the enlisted Reserve Corps, 3,700 retired Regular Army officers and 12,000 retired enlisted men.

Opposition Senators Meet.

Army officials have said, however, that immediate plans call only for the induction into active service of 55,426 enlisted men, 53 warrant officers and 3,930 officers of the National Guard.

Preparing for the debate on the conscription issue, a group of Senators met in the office of Senator Norris, Independent, of Nebraska to plan for a "full-debate, no-compromise fight" against the legislation.

Senator Nye, Republican, of North Dakota, one of the opposition leaders, declared he hoped there would be a "maximum number of speeches," but, he added, this did not mean a filibuster was threatened. Possibility of a compromise was not discussed, he said.

The bill as approved by the Senate Military Affairs Committee would require registration of all men between the ages of 21 and 31, and compulsory service of one year for a selected group of 400,000 this fall and 400,000 more April 1. The legislation would become operative May 15, 1940.

The House Military Affairs Committee yesterday tentatively approved the National Guard bill, pending passage by the Senate.

Chairman May said there was no opposition, but the delay was decided upon to expedite the legislation by permitting concurrence with amendments, which might be attached to the Senate bill.

The conscription bill probably will not come up in the House until the Senate has acted, because its committee is going to reopen its hearings.

## Gestapo Raided Polish Homes For Slaves to Toil on Farms

Civil Administration, Called 'Black Dogs' By Nazi Army, Thrives on Bribery

This is the fifth of a series of six articles by the American-born son of a Polish Army colonel, giving the first detailed, uncensored account of the German system of conquest in Poland.

By MICHAEL SOBANSKI, As told to Ira Wolfert.

System and order are among the great inventions of civilization and the Nazis do not neglect them in their work. Their destruction of the most primitive human and property rights is carried out in a systematic and orderly way and even with spy inventiveness.

Three agencies, each overlapping the other, carried out the will of Adolf Hitler in Poland—at least, as I saw it, in Warsaw. The first was the army, whose work was war, looting the battlefields and then restoring "tranquillity"—at least such tranquillity as a population may feel when a gun is held continually to its head.